

R&D and Innovation for PG&E Gas Operations

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R&D and Innovation part of Gas Safety Excellence

- Innovation is key to improve Gas Safety at an affordable cost.
- PG&E has introduced a systematic risk-based management of its assets following the continuous improvement Plan, Do, Check, Act sequence based on the ISO 55001 standard.
- R&D and Innovation is used to improve tools and methods and is part of the Act phase of the Gas Safety Excellence sequence.

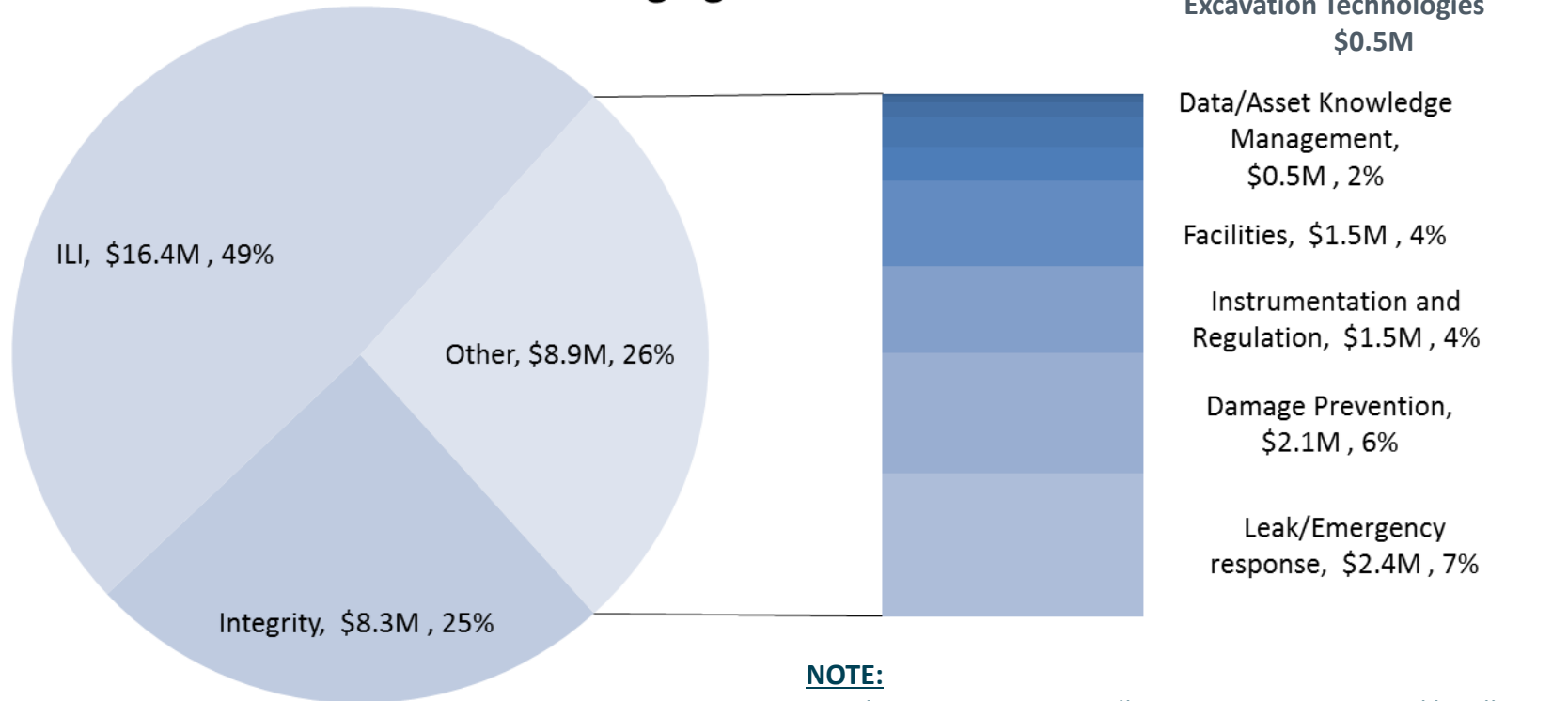




R&D and Innovation Portfolio

■ 92 active projects, 33 in evaluation (as of May 31st, 2014)

Current R&D and Innovation Portfolio leveraging collaborative R&D



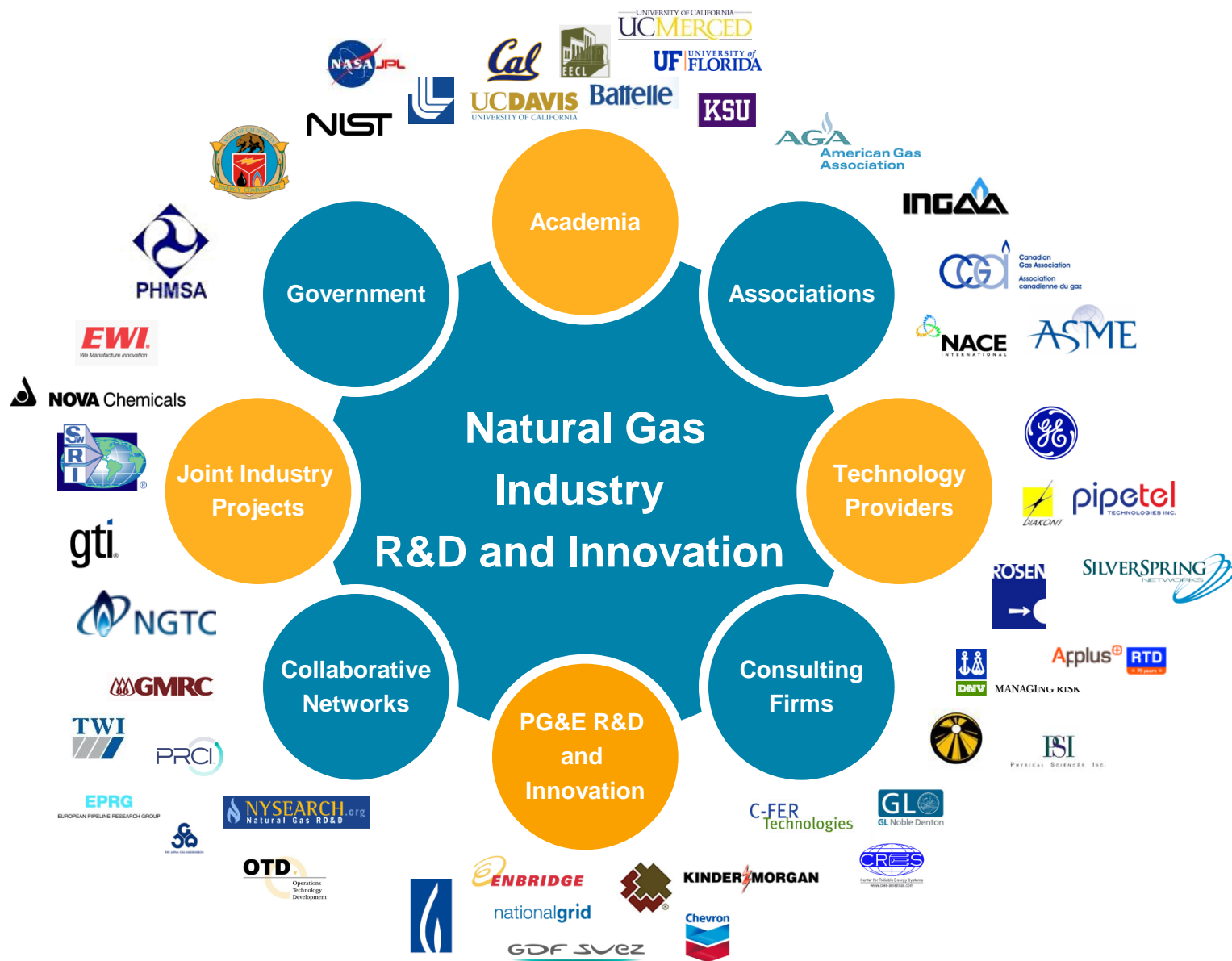
TOTAL: \$34M for \$4.9M PG&E funding
Leverage Factor: 7

NOTE:

Numbers represent overall project costs supported by all funders, PG&E's share is about 7 times less.

Numbers are not Annual Budget. Projects may be longer or shorter than a year.

R&D and Innovation Connection





Success Stories

Explorer Robotic Tools



Explorer 20/26 with high resolution cameras, Magnetic Flux Leakage sensor, and Mechanical Damage Sensor

- Non-tethered, battery-powered in-line inspection robotic tools for unpiggable transmission pipelines.
- Key Features:
 - Launch and receive through pressure control fitting via hot tap (traditional pig launcher and receiver not required)
 - Navigates through “unpiggable” features:
 - Mitered and < 1.5D radius bends
 - Plug valves
 - Low pressure and flow conditions
 - Performs NDE (Non-Destructive Evaluation) and visual inspection (2 high resolution cameras) for metal loss, cracks, and mechanical damage.



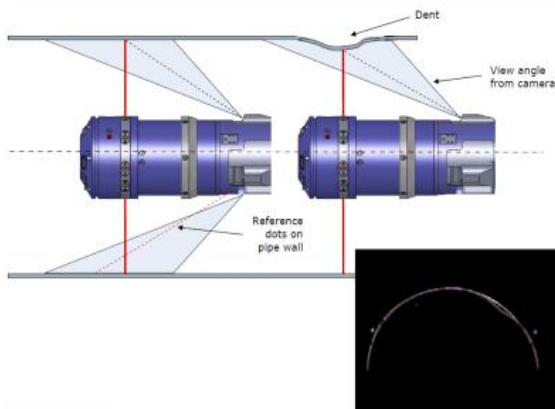
Explorer Robotic Tools

Platform	Status
Explorer 6/8	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Remote Field Eddy Current (RFEC) version commercially available.- Magnetic Flux Leakage (MFL) versions in development, expected commercial availability expected 4Q 2015.
Explorer 10/14	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- MFL version commercially available.- Deployed twice at PG&E.
Explorer 16/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Currently in development (PG&E not funding due low mileage in this diameter range).- Expected commercial availability expected 2Q 2015
Explorer 20/26	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- MFL version commercially available.- Deployed once at PG&E.
Explorer 30/36	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- PG&E hosted the first demonstration of this largest platform in July 2013. Currently awaiting final field test on the East Coast.- Commercial availability expected 4Q 2014.



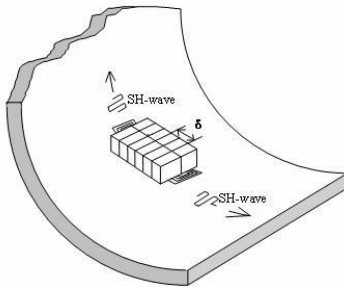
Explorer Sensors & Technologies

Mechanical Damage Sensor



Laser-based sensor detects and measures mechanical damage and ovality

Crack Sensor



Combination of Electromagnetic Acoustic Transducer (EMAT) and Transverse MFL to detect cracks *(in development)*

In-Line Charging Tool



Charges batteries of Explorer tools through a hot tap to extend range of inspection.

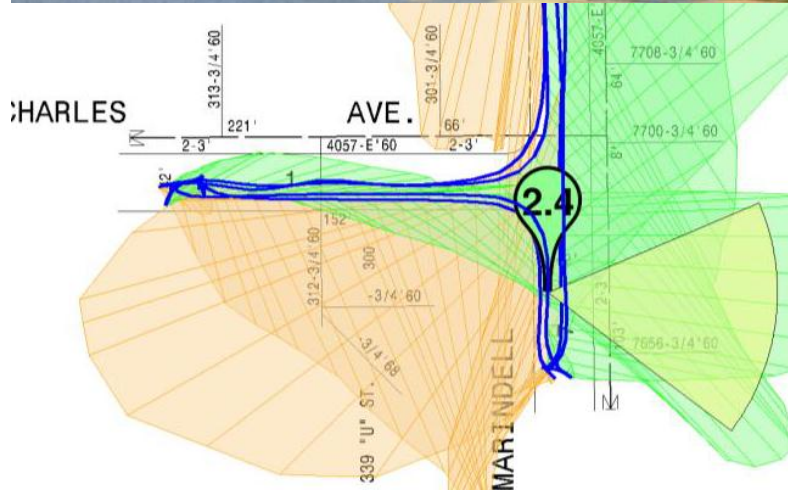
Rescue Tool



Pipeline Cleaning Tool



High Sensitivity Methane Detector



- Cavity Ring Down Spectroscopy (CRDS) detects methane concentrations as low as 1ppb.
- Allows a more effective sweep of an area with a vehicle to identify possible leaks.
- Data are transmitted immediately and can be viewed remotely in real time.
- Offers many opportunities to improve leak detection and repair process.

2012

2014

Design

Develop

Test

Deploy

Light Weight Methane Detector to Rapidly Locate Leaks



Prototype of Methane Detector by JPL (March 2013)

- Jet Propulsion Laboratory of NASA in Pasadena has developed a miniaturized methane detector to locate methane sources on Mars
- Precision of 10 ppb with an open path of 20 cm by using 3.3 μm absorption band.
- Allows to go from Picarro methane indication to leak by tracking the plume.
- Can be mounted on a UAV for rough terrain pipeline survey
- Partnership with PRCI and JPL to complete development and adaptation to our needs





3D Toolbox: 3D Structured Light Measurement System



- First developed for the dental industry, as a spin-off from University of Kentucky, the 3D Toolbox was detected by PRCI through the NASA Tecfusion program.
- Used like a digital camera, 3D Toolbox captures 3D images of pipe surfaces and provides measurements and analyses of the surface condition.
- PG&E verified the tool performance through a series of lab and field tests and is in the final stages of its deployment.



2012

2014

Design

Develop

Test

Deploy

GPS-based Damage Prevention



- Supplements 811 calls to provide additional protection
- Uses GPS location of construction equipment and movement patterns
- Sends alerts to field operators, and utility control room when equipment digs close to underground assets
- Built upon development made by GTI with Virginia Utility Protection Services
- Solution expected to be cheaper and more effective than ultrasonic and fiber optic detection systems



2013

Design

Develop

Test

2015

Deploy

Thank you!



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